

Serial No. 09/759,430

Docket No. HRT 228

REMARKS

Claims 14-30, and 36-60 are pending. Claims 1-13 and 31-35 are cancelled; claims 14-19, 25, 27, 29, 30, 36 and 37 are amended; claims 38-60 are new. No new matter has been added.

Independent claims 45 and 50 claim methods of anastomosing a first hollow tissue structure to a second hollow tissue structure having an aperture, wherein the first hollow tissue structure is everted. Independent claim 55 claims a method of anastomosing a first hollow tissue structure to a second hollow tissue structure using an anastomosis device having a plurality of openings, each opening configured to accept at least one of the first end or the second end of a separate tissue securing element. Independent claim 58 claims a method of anastomosing a first hollow tissue structure to a second hollow tissue structure using a means for holding one of the first ends and the second ends of the plurality of tissue securing elements about a perimeter of the distal end of the anastomosis device. The means for holding of claim 58 covers the device depicted at Figures 5-6 of U.S. Application Publication No. 2004/0050393.

Applicants submit a fee sheet to authorize payment of the fees associated with the additional claims.

Applicants submit that the prior art does not teach or suggest the claimed subject matter and request that the Examiner contact the undersigned in the event a discussion about the pending claims would expedite the application process.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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